



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
30TH SPACE WING (AFSPC)

Mr. Ronald Cortopassi
Executive Director
30th Space Wing/CD
747 Nebraska Ave, Suite A213
Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-6261

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
Sanctuary Advisory Council
Attn: Ms. Dianne Black
University of California Santa Barbara
Ocean Science Education Building 514, MC 6155
Santa Barbara CA 93106-6155

Dear Ms. Black,

As you know, the 30th Space Wing conducts hazardous operations in the offshore areas along the California Coast. The Wing's representative to the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) has provided our Navy counterparts concerns contained in the Marine Shipping Working Group's (MSWG) Final Report. We are aware of the Group's effort to reduce/eliminate the risk of ship strikes to whales, to improve air quality, and to minimize the impact to Department of Defense (DoD) operations due traffic lane changes within the offshore areas of California, were considered during this process.

I fully support and have coordinated with the Navy's comments provided in their letter of May 4, 2016. The Navy's views of the technology and spatial approaches within the reports reflect our concerns and goals. We also want to emphasize the 30th Space Wing's position that any final action on shipping lane changes may affect our operations, which extend beyond the Sea Test Range into the broad ocean areas. Changes to routings may create adverse impacts to shipping vessels moving through launch and test operations hazardous areas.

I look forward in supporting the great work provided by all the stakeholders. We will continue to provide our comments through the Navy as the DoD Seat on the SAC. All final reviews on SAC recommended actions will be analyzed for impacts through our chain of command up to the DoD, as applicable. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Walter Schobel, Airspace and Offshore Manager, at 805-606-3602 or by e-mail at walter.schobel@us.af.mil.

h. h. 9 May 2016

RONALD B. CORTOPASSI
Executive Director

cc:

Mr. Chris Mobley, Superintendent, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
Mr. Mike Murray, Deputy Superintendent for Programs, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
Mr. Sean Hastings, Resource Protection Coordinator, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary